हमारी जगह खाली रह जाती थीं। बीच में आया कि ऐलिजिबिलिटी नहीं है, कैंडीडेट्स हमारे योग्य नहीं हैं, इसका सहारा लिया गया और अब आ गया है जोन ऑफ कंसीडरेशन। हम उस जोन ऑफ कंसीडरेशन में नहीं आते। इसलिए बैकलॉग बढ़ता चला जा रहा है। तो अगर यही सहारा लिया जाएगा, बार-बार प्रतिबंध खड़े किए जाएंगे तो मैं यही कहूंगा कि सरकार की इच्छा शक्ति नहीं है कि हमारा बैकलॉग कम हो। अगर इनका बैकलॉग कम करना चाहते में तो इन पदोन्नतियों में जो अनारक्षण हो जाता है, डि-रिजर्वेशन हो जाता है उसको क्यों नहीं आप बंद कर देते हैं। बार-बार उनकी रिक्तियों को भर लेते हैं और हमारा बैकलॉग बढ़ जाता है। इसलिए आरक्षण कोटा को यदि पूरा करना है और उसमें अगर किसी अधिकारी ने कोई कमी रखी है तो उसके खिलाफ पैनल ऐक्शन रखिए।

एक बात और है कि जो आरक्षण कोटे को भरने में मदद करने के लिए जो कर्मचारी संगठन काम करते हैं उनकी मान्यता का प्रश्न बहुत दिनों से लंबित है। ये संगठन आपकी सरकार की भी मदद करेंगे। ऐसा कुछ नहीं है कि वह कांस्टीट्यूशन के अगेंस्ट है। तो मैं इन शब्दों के साथ सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि अगर वाकई इच्छा शक्ति हैं तो आरक्षण को कोटा रखिए, उसको पूरा कीजिए।

उपसभापति: आपने जो सुझाव दिए है मंत्री जी ने उनके बारे में बोल दिया है। एक बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि नेशनल कमीशन आफ सफाई कर्मचारी बिल आया है। उसमें तय हुआ था कि वगैर डिस्कशन के पास होगा। अगर सब लोग उसमें तैयार हैं.....

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY (Orissa): Madam, I may be given five minutes. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): We will pass it without discussion. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: If one party speaks, all are bound to speak. (*Interruptions*)

श्री ऐच. हनुमंतप्पा : मैंने एक कालिंग अटेंशन मोशन दिया है, उसका सारा डिस्कशन कर सकते हैं। If the House so agress, thr whole thing can be discussed and we can pass this Bill without discussion.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. We will look into the matter of the Calling Attention. I do not know as to what it is. If time permits, we will allow it.

आप भी मंत्री जी को बोल दीजिए क्या आपका सुझाव है। आप बोलेंगे तो मेरे पास कोई वजह नहीं है कि दूसरों को न बोलने दूं। अगर आपको दूंगी तो सबको देना पड़ेगा। ... (व्यवधान) मंत्री जी आप जो सुझाव दे रहे हैं उसको सुन लीजिए, अगर उसमें कुछ निर्णय ले सकते हैं तो जरूर देख लीजिए क्योंकि उनके कुछ अच्छे सुझाव हैं। और भी कुछ सुझाव देने हैं तो दे दीजिए। मंत्री जी अब आप अपना बिल मूव कीजिए।

Now, if the House so agrees, we can pass that and then we can continue with the Special Mentions because if I do it, it will be faster. Now, we will finish this Bill first.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SAFAI KARMCHARIS BILL, 1993

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU): Madam Deputy Chairman, I move:

"That the Bill to constitute a National Commission for Safai Karamcharis and provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Madam, shall I make a speech?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: At least two, three points, I mean, what is the reason for bringing forward this Bill?

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, the handling of the nightsoil by the safai karamcharis manually, is an inhuman act and it should not continue. The very purpose of this Bill is to bring them out of this inhuman act. Madam, our hon. Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narsimha Rao Ji, in his Independence Day speech last year, from the ramparts of the Red Fort had announced that our Government would bring a legislation and appoint a Commission to see what remedial measures could be taken in this area. The Planning Commission has conducted a survey all over India. Through this survey we found about 4 lakhs safai karamcharis in the country. Subsequently, we have requested the State Governments to verify the facts. The reports of the State Governments have also come and a further 3 lakh people are available in his are 1.00 PM So far in 484 towns they have been rehabilitated. To see that these Safai Karamcharis are brought out of this inhuman crime, our Government has thought it fit to have an ambitious plan for having a scavenger-free country. In this regard we have so far made a number of attempts and in the States of Karnataka, Gujarat, Kerala, Pondicherry they have done some very good work and particularly in Karnataka, the pioneer State, where this scheme was piloted, where Mrs. Gandhi, former Prime Minister of our country, gave us an assurance when she was the Congress-President to do that, we have done a remarkable job there. We have taken up the same measures to be followed by other States. Today I must say, Madam, Pondicherry State has come out very successful in implementing the scheme. During the last two years our Government has so far spent about Rs. 111 crores on this scheme and in fact, we are not able to get the desired results from the State Governments. That is why our Prime Minister has announced that there must be a Commission at the national level to monitor the work and guide the States to implement the scheme.

One thing more; the Department of Urban Development is also making very good efforts to change dry lavatories into flush-out lavatories. For this cause, in the Eighth Plan the Government of India has allocated Rs. 1,200 crores and side by side, on the one hand the Urban Development Ministry is trying to change dry lavatories into flush-out lavatories and on the other, the Welfare Ministry is undertaking the gigantic task of rehabilitating these scavengers and these scavengers will be trained and given alternative jobs for which our Government has proposed to give about Rs. 905 crores in the Eighth Plan. Our plan is that we should make the country free from the scourge of scavenging and this activity must be stopped forthwith. For the training programme we have allocated Rs. 105 crores and the remaining Rs. 800 crores will be for the rehabilitation programme. This programme is financed by the S.C. finance and Development Corporations at the State level and the State Governments are to look after the training and the rehabilitation progrmmes.

Madam Deputy Chairman, I must inform the hon. House that this scheme will be fruitfully implemented only when we get the cooperation of the State Governments and the people and without the active support of hon. Members and political leaders, this cannot be implemented effectively. We cannot allow this to continue for ever, this inhuman act must be immediately stopped forth with and that is why to make the scheme more effective, to make it effectively implemented, we want a Commission to be appointed and we

want leaders who are spearheading, who are responsible, who are committed to this cause, to be appointed as Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Commission and we also want that at least one of the Members shall be a woman so that the reality may be known that there is a set of efficient people in this social heirarchy and they will be able to discharge their duties without any difficulty. Government's intention is to liberate the scavengers from the inhuman practice. I appeal, through this august House, to the State Governments, the hon. Members of this House and public that we must work in unison and we should see to it that this country comes out of this problem before the completion of the Eighth Plan period. Madam, apart from the scavengers who are handling night-soil, the problems of other scavengers are also to be looked into. That is why we have made a provision in this Bill that their problems should also be looked into and the Government is going to appoint a committee to find out their total number so that the Welfare Ministry will be able to take up their cause also. The Commission will be totally responsible for the speedy implementation of the scheme. With these words, Madam, I would request the House to accept the Bill.

The question was proposed.

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Minister, please reply to my suggestion.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: I would also appeal to all the Members, as many Members would like to talk and want to participate in the discussion of this important Bill...

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: This is a simple suggestion. You can just reply. My suggestion was that the word 'swacchkar' be substituted for the words 'Safai Karmacharis'.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: We will take into account all the issues and suggestions made by the hon. Members while making the rules. As regards vocational education, it is already in the programme. As regards dry lavatories, as I mentioned earlier, there will be no dry lavatories in the whole country after the Eighth Plan period. Rupees one thousand two hundred crores have been allotted for this and the Urban Development Ministry is carefully implementing the scheme and the reports which we are getting are very satisfactory. For the upliftment of the scavengers, as I mentioned earlier, there is a component of training and rehabilitation. This programme is there and it will be really implemented. We have already got a model programme. Four hundred and eighty four town in the country are already scavenger-free. I must congratulate Karataka, Pondicherry and other States. These States have completed the work and corrected this anomaly. We have asked the State Governments and the banks to co-operate with us and they are co-operating in a big way. Further, Madam, to complete this programme in a successful manner we need the fullest co-operation of the House and the people by and large without any political consideration. (*Interruptions*)... After all, they are also our brothers and sisters and we must get rid of this problem.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think you could not have done... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY (Orissa): Madam, I have one question. Only one question, Mr. Minister. It is mentioned here in this Bill, "It shall cease to have effect after the 31st day of March, 1977". That means this Act will be in force only for three years. I would like to know whether the Government will amend this part of the Bill or not.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, this is our intention that, as I mentioned earlier, before the completion of the Eighth Plan we want to free all the scavengers in the country and rehabilitate them. That is our intention. At this moment, if we dilute this idea, we will not be able to implement it effectively. That is why I seek your co-operation. (*Interruptions*) ...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I don't allow. (*Interruptions*) ... I am not allowing any question. (*Interruptions*) ...Now we will open the flood-gate and I have to allow everybody to talk. I cannot allow. I cannot be discriminatory to Members. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, I will reply to this. (*Interruptions*) ...

श्री राम नरेश यादव : महोदय में इस बिल के लिए सरकार को बधाई देना चाहता हूं ।

उपसभापति : बधाई बाद में दीजिये ।

SHRI K. V. THAGKA BALU: I assure the hon. Member that the time-frame, certainly we will take into account extending the Commission's time. There will be no problem. We are committed to this policy. We are committed to this Act. We want to see that this problem is eradicated from our society and the people of this section are rehabilitated.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is good that you are making a time-bound programme. Now you stick to it. That is what the Members want. It should not be that you come back again. Then, I can assure you that we will not pass that Bill unanimously if you come for extension of time. We are only permitting you because you are coming with a time bound programme for a good cause. So, we should congratulate him and he should thank our Members.

उपसभापति : क्या थैंक यू बोलना है ?

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह (बिहार) : थैंक यू आपने बोल दिया ।

एक चीज में सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं । य बिल की बात नहीं उठा रहा हूं । मेरा प्रश्न केवल यह है कि जिन स्वैच्छिक संस्थाओं ने इन कार्यों में अच्छा काम किया है, जैसे सुलभ इंटरनेशनल ने बहुत अच्छा काम किया है, देश-विदेश में, तो इनके साथ सरकार का जो सहयोग होगा वह किस तरह का होगा ? उनका सरकार सहयोग लेगी या नहीं लेगी ? ऐसे लोगों को क्या कमीशन में सरकार लेगी, जिनको इस बात का जानकारी है ?

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, we are contacting State Development Corporations. If certain organisations come forwards to help the endeavour, we will certainly take them into account. We will try to accommodate these organisations. There is no problem. I will certainly writ to the State Development Corporations.

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH: Madam, he must be knowing Mr. Bindeswari Pathak. He started the Sullabh International. He has done a lot of work in this field. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government will take the help of organisations, like the Sullabh International.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, there is a Constitution Scheduled Castes Order, 1950. In respect of the State of Himachal Pradesh in Part 6, in respect of Maharashtra in Part 10 in respect of Karnataka in Part 8 and in respect of Goa in Part 22, the word 'Bhangi' has been used. My only suggestion is the word 'Bhangi' should be replaced by 'Safai Karamcharis'.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, I have noted his suggestion. We will try to do it.

SHRI MISA R. GANESAN (Tamil Nadu): I would like to know from the Government whether they will abolish dry latrines or not. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are really opening a discussion. That was not my intention.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL (Bihar): Madam, I will take only one minute. It is a very laudable cause. We all suport it. Does he know that the sanitation problems of India are very serious? Does the Government have any long-term scheme? There is not a single city including our capital where the new model system of sanitation has been provided. Does the Government have in mind anything whereby when you substitute this abominable practice of carrying dirt on the head or on the body—you can finish it in the next Plan—by covering a major portion of the country by the flush system or something?

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, I have already mentioned about it. We have an ambitious plan to make the dry latrines into water borne latrines. The Government has allocated Rs. 1200 crores for this work. That is one of the priority areas for us. Then training and rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharis is also our prime area. That is why I said that it is possible. We have made a lot of improvement. I hopefully say in this august House that we are committed to this cause We will certainly see that this anomaly does not remain. Mr. Ganesan has asked, "Is it possible to abolish dry latrines?" As I said earlier, yes. The Ministry of Urban Development has another ambitious programme to abolish dry latrines and make them water-bone latrines before the Eighth Plan. The system is already working. Funds have been allotted to the State Governments. (*Interruptions*). Now we have started it. So far we have not been able to venture in this area. Now we have started a very ambitious programme. We will see that this problem is totally eradicated. Our brothers and sisters will not carry night soil on their heads. It is our commitment. Our Prime Minister also said it last year and this year on Independence Day.

It is a very clear commitment. This Government will completely eradicate this problem.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): Madam, I congratulate the Government on this laudable cause. Bnt there are States like Karnataka which have totally eradicated the problems of Safai Karamcharis 20 years before. Will the Central Government consider subsidising? You are spending crores of rupees on other States which have not implemented it or are lagging behind. Here is a model State. It is 20 years since we have implemented it and we are still spending money. It has been totally eradicated, this Safai Karamchari business. Will the Government consider subsidising us not only by words but by money also? Just thanking is not enough.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, as I said, this programme was initiated by Indiraji when she was the Congress President and Mr. Devraj Urs was the Chief Minister of Karnataka. They have done a wonderful job. Mr. Basava Lingappa was a forerunner for this cause. I am complimenting this House and I again compliment the Karnataka Government and the people of Karnataka. This is a national issue and a national programme and we should see that other States also come out of this problem. Your enthusiastic words should encourage others and we compliment again and again the Karnataka people for rendering this good service.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There should be some award or some honour or some incentive so that other people too come forward.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: I will give it to Shri Hanumanthappa.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, to the State of Karnataka.

The question is:

That the Bill to constitute a National Commission for Safai Karamcharis and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 15 were added to the Bill

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Madam, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopetd.

श्री राम नरेश यादव : महोदया, आधा मिनट . . .

उपसभापति : बस कांग्राचुलेट कर दीजिये । आधा मिनट क्या करेंगे, अभी स्पेशल मेंशन है ।

श्री राम नरेश यादव : महोदया, सरकार ने यह बिल ला कर गांधी जी का जो स्वप्न था, जिसके लिए वे बराबर संघर्ष करते रहे, इतने वर्षों के बाद उससे मुक्ति दिलाने का काम सरकार ने किया है और सदन ने इसे पास किया है, इसके लिए मैं सरकार को बहुत-बहुत बधाई देता हूं । मैं यह चाहता हूं कि जिस स्पीरिट से इस बिल को पास किया गया है, उसी के आधार पर इसको इम्पलीमेंट भी किया जाए ।

उपसभापति : सरकार जब कभी भी अच्छा बिल लाती है तो अपोजीशन वाले सब कोआप्रेट करते हैं, यह भी कहिये । किसी ने भी एतराज नहीं किया है ।

श्री राम नरेश यादव : मैं अपोजीशन वालों को भी बधाई देता हूं ।

उपसभापति : स्पेशन मेंशंस, श्री रामदास अग्रवाल जी ।

SPECIAL MENTIONS

THREAT TO MINING INDUSTRY

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान) : माननीया उपसभापति महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से हमारे वन और पर्यावरण मंत्रालय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । राजस्थान में एक बाघ परियोजना सरिस्का क्षेत्र में चलती है । यह अलवर का एरिया है । पर्यावरण विभाग ने एक अधिसूचना 7 मई, 1992 को निकाली । उसके द्वारा उस क्षेत्र में जितने काम चलते हैं जिससे माइनिंग का काम भी सम्मिलित है, उसको भी उस बाघ परियोजना में सम्मिलित किया है । महोदया, वन्य पशु, पक्षी और वन, इन सब के संरक्षण का मैं समर्थक हूं लेकिन मैं एक बात यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यह एरिया जो पहले था, वन विभाग ने सर्वे करने के बाद 800 वर्ग किलोमीटर का एरिया निर्धारित किया था । लेकिन अचानक अपनी रिपोर्टस को छोड़ कर किसी अन्यान्य स्रोतों के द्वारा उसका सर्वे करवा कर बिना किसी की जानकारी के इस बाघ परियोजना के क्षेत्र को 1145 वर्ग किलोमीटर कर दिया गया है । 1145 वर्ग किलोमीटर के इस एरिया में जो माइनिंग का काम चलता है वह केवल पांच वर्ग किलोमीटर में चलता है । महोदया, यह 5 वर्ग किलोमीटर का जो एरिया माइनिंग में है जिसमें 15 हजार श्रमिक काम करते हैं जिसके अन्दर करोड़ों रुपयों की सरकार को आमदनी होती है । उस क्षेत्र की